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TO : Department of State

INFO : Amembassy PHNOM PENH

FROM : USUN - New York

DATE: April 10, 1970

SUBJECT : Cambodian Communication

REF :

UNP/4-14-70

On April 1, 1970, the UN Secretariat transmitted, at the request of the Deputy Representative of Cambodia to the UN, the enclosed translation of a communication dated March 31, 1970, concerning the occupation of Cambodia by troops of the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam and of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Viet-Nam.

YOST

att

Enclosure:
Cambodian Communication

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Translated from French

PERMANENT MISSION OF CAMBODIA TO
THE UNITED NATIONS

New York, 31 March 1970

OK/mt
No. 1686

Sir:

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to bring the following to Your Excellency's attention:

The Khmer people have clearly reaffirmed, by a series of demonstrations in the capital and in all the provinces of Cambodia, their desire to enforce respect for the territorial integrity of Cambodia, and will not tolerate any foreign troops occupying their national territory and acting as if they owned it, on the pretext of solidarity against the imperialists.

The troops of the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam and of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Viet-Nam have, by occupying our territory in violation of the Geneva Agreements of 1954, clearly exposed their annexationist and imperialist designs.

The Khmer Government of Salvation, headed by His Excellency General Lon Nol, intends, therefore, as a first step, to use all the peaceful means at its disposal to oblige these troops to withdraw completely from its territory.

Accordingly, to prove its good faith, the Khmer Government has informed the two co-chairmen of the 1954 Geneva Conference of the occupation of the national territory of Cambodia by the troops of the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam, which is a signatory to the Agreements, and by the troops of the Provisional Revolutionary Government (National Liberation Front) of South Viet-Nam.

His Excellency U Thant,
Secretary-General of the United Nations,
New York, N.Y.

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To that end, it has requested the co-chairmen to renew the mission of the International Control Commission to Cambodia in order to verify this occupation and to recommend appropriate measures to evacuate the occupying troops.

At the same time, the Government of Salavation has entered into official negotiations with the representatives of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet-Nam and of the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam, with a view to obtaining the withdrawal of their troops.

On 25 March 1970, the Chargés d'Affaires, a.i., of the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam and of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet-Nam at Phnom Penh both requested to see the Secretary-General of the Cambodian Ministry of Foreign Affairs to hand him an aide-mémoire noting the decision of their respective Governments to suspend temporarily the activities of their embassies at Phnom Penh and to repatriate all personnel, with the exception of two persons from each embassy who would merely look after the property. At that time, they had not set the date of their departure.

During these interviews, the Secretary-General of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs handed them a note stating that the Cambodian Government intended to resume on 27 March 1970 the talks which had been initiated on 16 March with the representatives of those countries on the question of the withdrawal of their troops from Khmer territory. Two hours later, they requested the Polish Ambassador at Phnom Penh to notify the Secretary-General of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs that their departure was set for the same date proposed by the Cambodian Government for the resumption of the talks, thus showing that they wished to avoid those talks. In addition, they stated that the embassy staff who would remain at Phnom Penh did not have the authority to represent their Governments and consequently were not competent to continue talks with the Cambodian Government.

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The Cambodian Government, which wishes to exhaust all peaceful and diplomatic means of resolving this matter, regrets that it cannot continue its talks with the representatives of the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam and of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Viet-Nam - talks which these countries obviously wish to avoid.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of this letter circulated to all States Members of the United Nations.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) OR KOSALAK
Deputy Permanent Representative
of Cambodia
Chargé d'Affaires, a.i.

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